

Kansas City has a Mary Hartman

Anyone who shares a name with a popular TV character is bound to arouse attention.

For a real-life Mary Hartman in Kansas City, KS, fame has had both rewards and disadvantages.

Since the controversial nighttime serial "Mary Hartman, Mary Hartman" debuted on television earlier this year, the wife of 4215's Jack Hartman, security, has become a celebrity of sorts in her home town. She was the subject of a front page article in a local newspaper recently. Since then, Mary has fought a losing battle with anonymity.

Strangers who hear her name complain to her about what the TV Mary did on the show the night before. Skeptics think she's bluffing and changed her name.

But this hasn't stopped Mary and her husband from being caught up in the contagion of the program. They watch the continuing comedy-drama nightly, and often discuss the character's activities among their friends. When staffers tease Hartman at 4215, he knows it's all in fun.



K mart 4427, Independence, MO elected Ruth Frechin, service desk, and Larry Evtalzer, warehouse clerk, Mr. and Mrs. Bicentennial.

Weekend trips planned by 4329

The crew at 4329, Belleville, IL, won't have to worry about what to do on Saturday nights any more. Staffers put together a weekend entertainment package which features some special sights in neighboring St. Louis.

The Marriott Motel across from the St. Louis Airport has great accommodations and good food, according to Rosetta Higdon. Shirley Cullip suggests a steak on the Robert E. Lee, a boat docked at the foot of the St. Louis Arch. The Golden Red Showboat is also nearby, and offers nightly dancing to the beat of a big band.

Sunday brunch followed by a trip to the renowned St. Louis is a must for real sight-seers. Which brings everyone back to Monday morning, a new day at K mart... and breakfast at the grill.



Boraboo Senior High School student Gena Marms models in spring fashion show held at K mart 9007, Boraboo, WI.

Travels highlight season

Jim Archbald, menswear manager at store 3105, Sterling, IL, recently devoted one week of his vacation to helping others.

A non-profit group called Project Partner sent Archbald and 39 other men to the site of the earthquake in Guatemala. The organization's goal was to assist the earthquake victims in rebuilding foundations for destroyed homes and churches.

By means of a little Spanish and such sign language, each man communicated with the people. Since the area had very little money or materials, they really appreciated the assistance.

Archbald found the people friendly and willing to cooperate. He derived a great feeling of personal satisfaction from the trip. More importantly, he thought his group had accomplished something worthwhile by going.

An all-expenses paid back-packing trip was awarded to Al Hinrichs from 3038, St. Paul, MN. Hinrichs was named the Explorer Scout Director of the year for Southern Minnesota. He will "rough it" to the Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico from July 17-28.

Besides holding a brown belt in Judo and green belt in Karate, Hinrichs is certified in advanced first aid. All skills will certainly be useful on the trip.

Tammy Otten, part-timer for store 4466, Mason City, IA enjoyed a four-week stay in northern Germany near the Herz Mountains.

The high school senior combined a scholarship with earnings from working at K mart to make the trip possible. She spent several weeks at Goethe Institute, a private school, and lived in their dorms. German language and culture studies absorbed most of her time, but Tammy managed to put in some sight-seeing as well.

Jenny Moline is another lucky staffer who had a chance to learn about a foreign culture. This young lady from K mart 4086, Joliet, IL, visited Ecuador last year as an exchange student from the American Field Services organization.

Jenny spent most of her time in Guayaquil where she met the country's president. She climbed Mount Cotopaxi in the Andes, went horseback riding in the mountains and visited the famous Indian Market in Otavalo.

The American Field Service sponsors student's travels each year. The group held an "International Desert" day at Dirksen Junior High School in Joliet which Jenny and other students attended. Each student served one of her host country's native dishes.

4018 veteran stops traffic

K mart 4018, Dubuque, IA has a character that has not left the store in 12 years. No, it's not an over-eager employee. The veteran is George, the talking Myna Bird.

George's vast vocabulary consists of "Birds can't talk" and "Thank you for shopping at K mart."

He's also been known to embarrass a few of the ladies. In the wee hours of the morning he will often issue a raucous wolf whistle at some store lovelies.



George, the talking myna bird

Midwestern Regional News

Stores commend accomplishments

Store 4041, Sioux Falls, SD has a budding writer in its midst. John Gilmore, stock boy, was recently selected from 675 high school students to experience the day-to-day life of reporters and workers at the local newspaper, the Argus Leader.

But that was only part of Gilmore's recent acclaim. He also had an article published in a Sunday edition of that publication.

The creative young man's room at home mirrors his many talents. It is filled with trophies he has won for drama, debate, oratory, extemporaneous speaking and oral interpretation.

Gilmore has starred in presentations of "John Brown's Body", "Adaptions", "West Side Story", and "George M" at O'Gorman High School.

Reginald Owens, manager of Jupiter 4546, Moline, IL, performed some heroics and demonstrated quick thinking in an emergency recently.

When a neighboring jewelry store caught fire, Owens, along with Moline Mayor Earl Wendi and the shop owner, removed money and merchandise from the blazing building. They then soaked the scorched materials in water.

With the help of fireman and his neighbor's aid, the jeweler limited damage to the two top stories of the high building.

